



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held April 10, 2007, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“The term ‘biosolids’ refers to sewage sludge that has been treated and tested. Ultimately biosolids are placed in a landfill or utilized as a soil amendment in agriculture in conformance with Federal, State, and local laws. Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board or the regional boards to prescribe general waste discharge requirements for land application of sludge.

“Assembly Bill 1207 (Smyth), as introduced on February 23, 2007, would: 1) require the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to develop regulations for the land application of biosolids by July 1, 2009; 2) require the standards to be uniform Statewide; 3) prohibit a local governmental entity from enacting any ordinance or regulation that is contrary or inconsistent to the CIWMB’s regulations on the land application of biosolids; and 4) void any existing or future local ordinance or regulation that contradicts the CIWMB’s regulations regarding the composting and disposal of biosolids. This ill-conceived legislation is a draconian reaction to a referendum in one county, a referendum that is currently the subject of litigation and may ultimately be overturned by the courts.

“AB 1207 would undermine local governments’ local land use authority regarding the land application of biosolids. The proposal envisions a ‘one-size-fits-all’ regulatory solution that ignores community concerns. The State should not be involved in making land use decisions on behalf of local jurisdictions, as it has already done relative to group homes, with disastrous consequences for neighborhoods.”

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Arnold Sachs addressed the Board.

After discussion, on motion of Supervisor Antonovich, seconded by Supervisor Burke, unanimously carried (Supervisors Knabe and Molina being absent), the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in opposition to AB 1207 (Smyth), legislation which would:
 - Require the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) to develop regulations for the land application of biosolids by July 1, 2009;
 - Require the standards to be uniform Statewide;
 - Prohibit a local governmental entity from enacting any ordinance or regulation that is contrary or inconsistent to the CIWMB's regulations on the land application of biosolids;
 - Void any existing or future local ordinance or regulation that contradicts the CIWMB's regulations regarding the composting and disposal of biosolids; and
2. Instructed the Executive Officer of the Board to send a five-signature letter to Governor Schwarzenegger, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Senate President Pro Tempore and the Los Angeles County Legislative Delegation expressing the Board's opposition to AB 1207.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Letters sent to:

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Speaker of the Assembly
Senate President Pro Tempore
Each Member, Los Angeles County
Legislative Delegation
Assemblyman Cameron Smyth